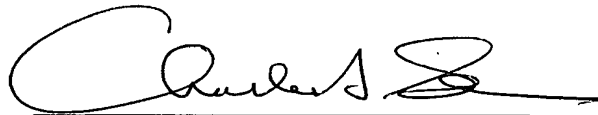


REMARKS

Entry of the above preliminary amendment is respectfully requested. After entry of the here-enclosed amendment, Claims 1-40 are canceled. Claims 41-75 are newly added.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles I. Sherman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles I. Sherman, Reg. No. 22,998

**MIDDLETON REUTLINGER**

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Date: January 5, 2006